

## **Monuments and Ceremonies Commission Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2010**

Chairman, Phil Kraft called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM with the following commissioners present: Edward Carabillo, David Polett, Karen Polett, Ken Reiss, and Charles Scribner.

Minutes of the November 9, 2010 meeting were accepted as read with the clarification that the Darien Dept. of Public Works is not required to take over maintaining older cemeteries.

**Old Business:** Phil mentioned that the Wreaths Across America dinner held on December 8, at the Darien VFW Post #6933 was a huge success. All in attendance agreed that the food, catered by Cindy Tanner was outstanding; the band was excellent. The Worcesters expressed their gratitude and presented a ceremonial wreath to Phil Kraft to thank him for all of his hard work in planning the various wreath events. The VFW was filled to capacity. Selectmen Campbell, Stevenson, and Nielsen, Norwalk Mayor Moccia, Representative Terri Wood, DAR Regent Winifred Lom and Senator Bob Duff all attended. The Town Hall ceremony and the wreath presentation at the Darien High School were well done. It was suggested that wreath sponsorships sales should be started earlier next year because so many organizations collect during the holidays.

The Tokeneke Bridge plaque is presently at Rings End and has been cut to a more manageable size, according to Dave Campbell. Permanent placement of this plaque from 1912 has yet to be decided, but after discussion our Commission favored placing the plaque someplace near the old bridge site, if possible.

**New Business:** A flag disposal program will be conducted by the Darien Fire Department at 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 8, 2011.

At 1:00 PM on Wednesday, December 22, 2010 a sub-committee of our Commission will meet at Phil Kraft's office on West Avenue to send invitations to various leaders of groups planning to participate in the 2011 Memorial Day Parade. We hope to get some much needed cooperation and help in organizing the Divisions. With representatives from the participating groups aware of just what is entailed and expected of them, we hope to make the Parade run even more efficiently. These representatives will be invited to our next Commission meeting on **January 11, 2011 at 3:30 PM.**

Phil mentioned that he could really use computer help from someone who is experienced in Excel. Ken mentioned that the Darien Library might be a source in locating some knowledgeable person willing to help us. Having a detailed spreadsheet for the Parade would be extremely helpful.

We should begin thinking of a Grand Marshall and a Speaker for the Memorial Day Parade 2011, and our Commission needs to add several able-bodied, patriotic members. The Secretary will send thank you notes to Brooks Hrusa and to Keith Carper for their help with the wreaths.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM on a motion by Ed Carabillo, second Dave Polett.

Submitted by,  
Karen K. Polett Secretary

